From the talent behind *Yokohama Kaidashi Kikou* and *Kotonoba Drive!*

story and artwork by Ashinano Hitoshi

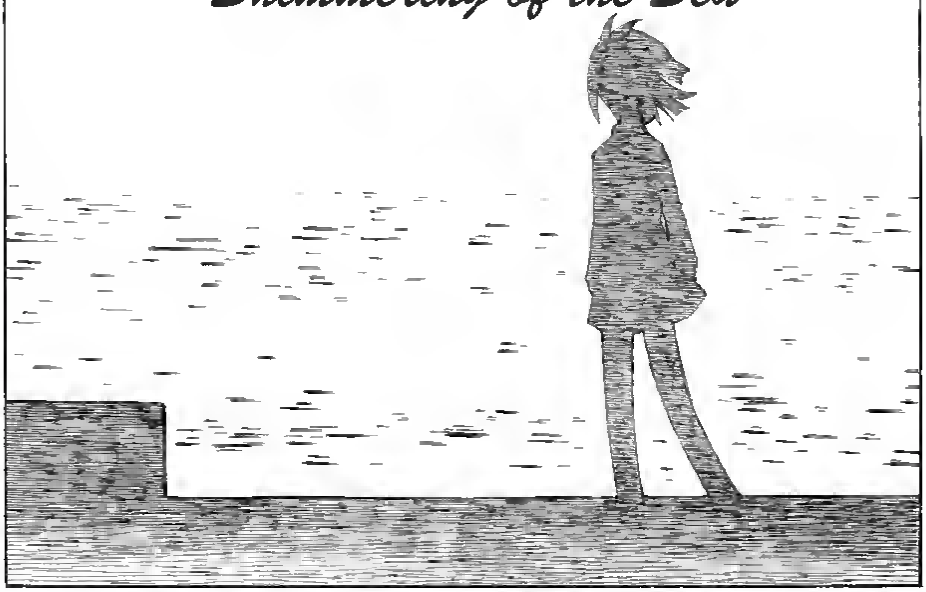
MUSHISHI

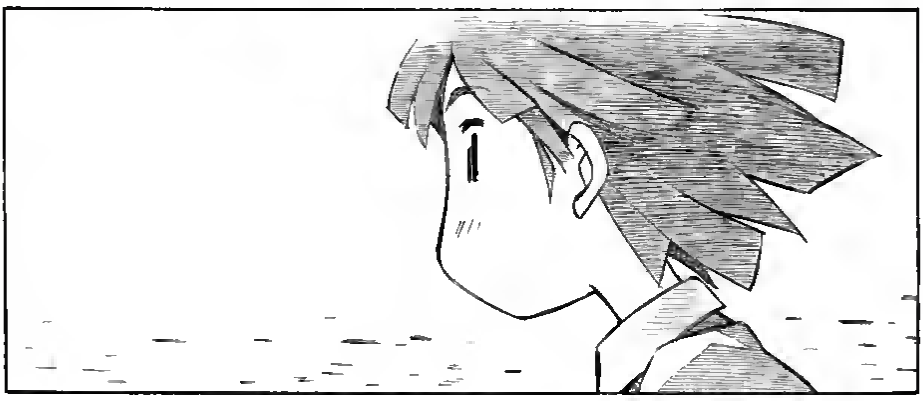
ORIGINAL WORK BY
UROUSHIBARA YUKI

SIDE STORY

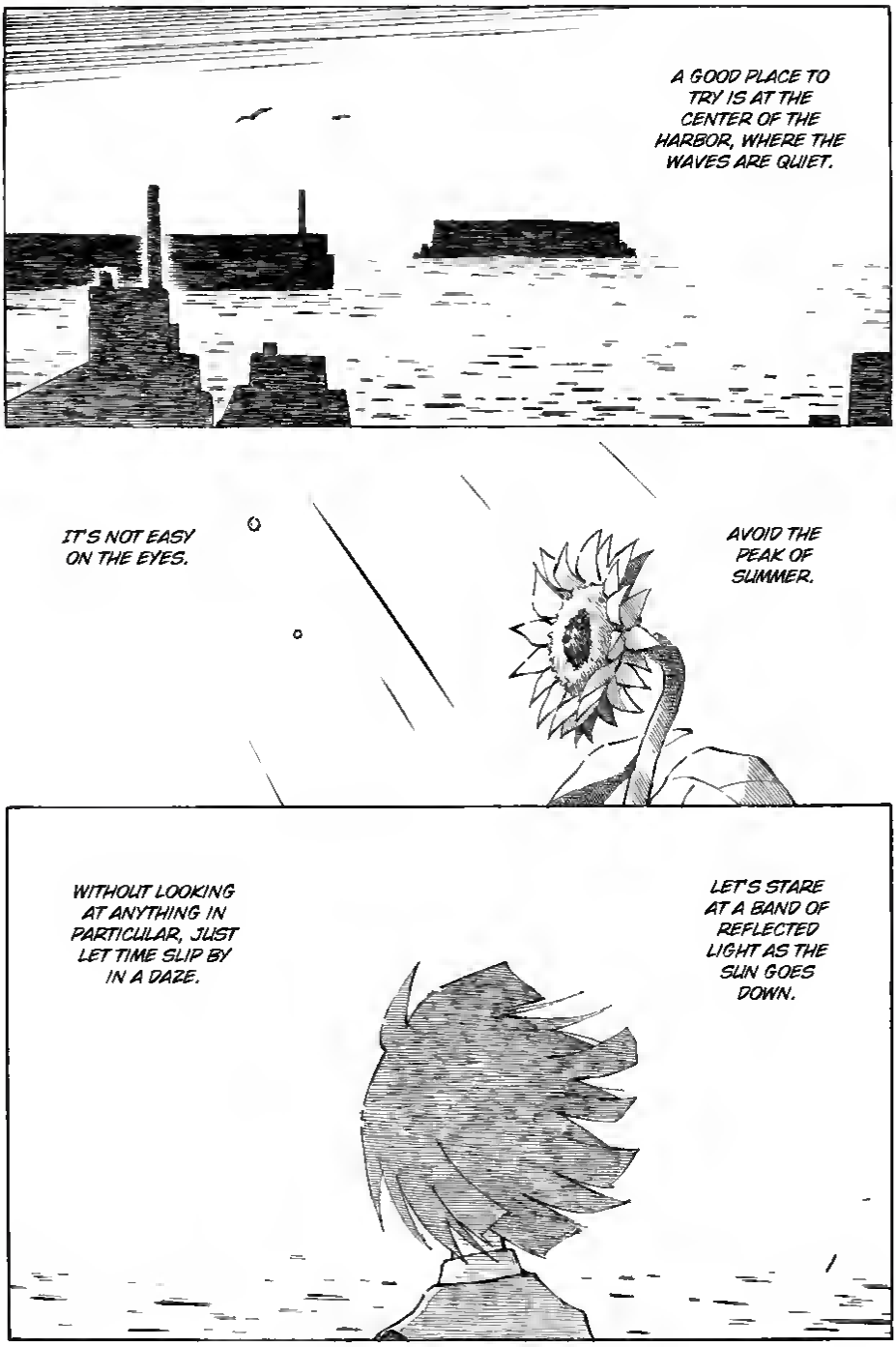
Shimmering of the Sea

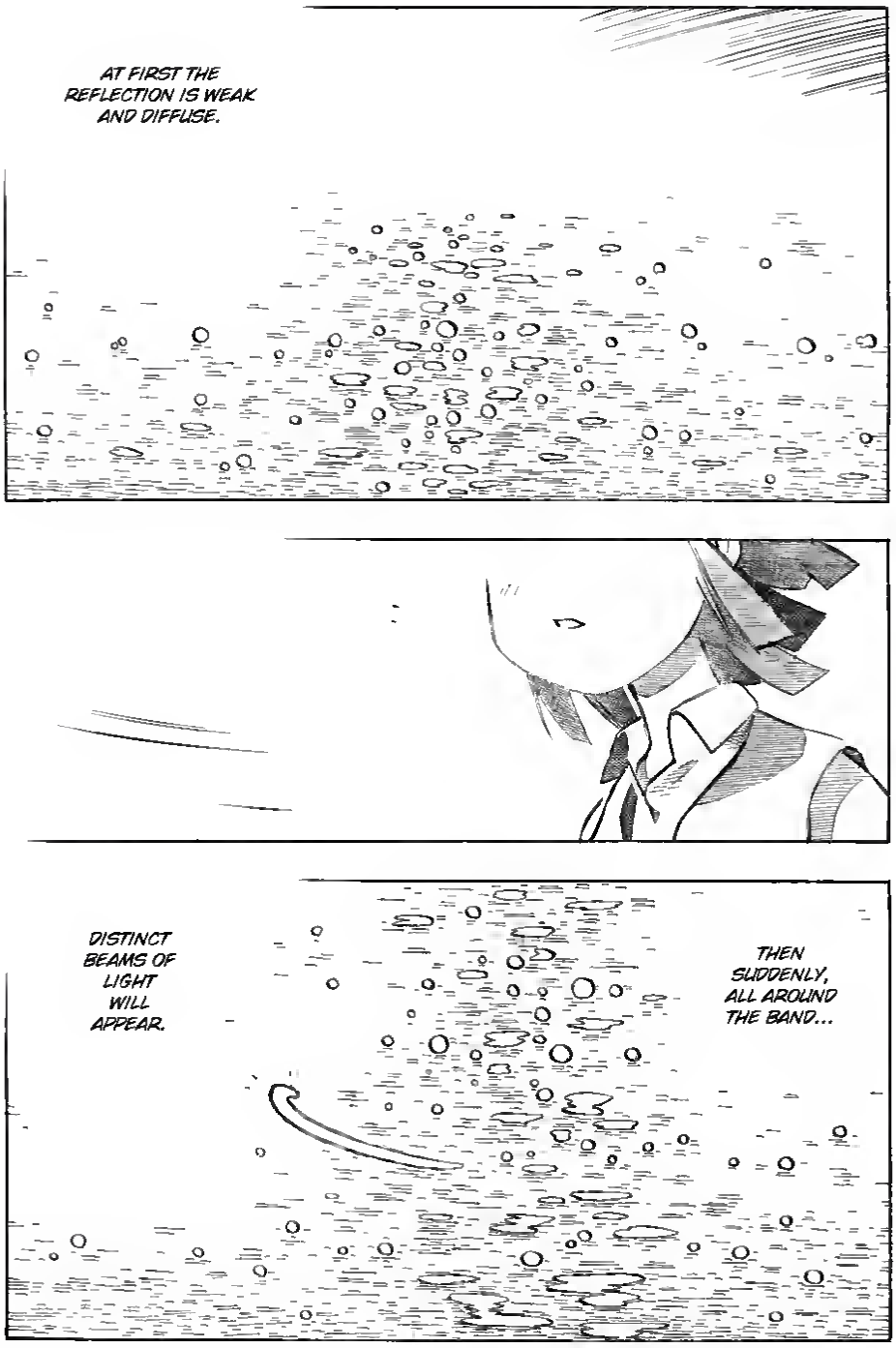
SHOULD YOU EVER GO TO THE SEA IN THE EVENING, I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO GIVE SOMETHING A TRY. JUST ONCE.



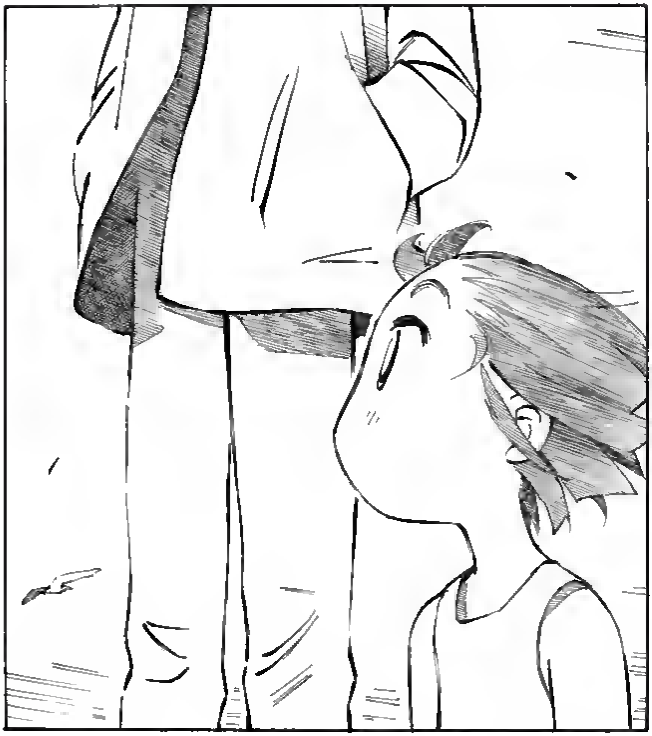


Perhaps there's no such thing as "it's just my imagination" in the real world.


A GOOD PLACE TO TRY IS AT THE CENTER OF THE HARBOR, WHERE THE WAVES ARE QUIET.
IT'S NOT EASY ON THE EYES.
AVOID THE PEAK OF SUMMER.
WITHOUT LOOKING AT ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR, JUST LET TIME SLIP BY IN A DAZE.
LET'S STARE AT A BAND OF REFLECTED LIGHT AS THE SUN GOES DOWN.


AT FIRST THE REFLECTION IS WEAK AND DIFFUSE.
DISTINCT BEAMS OF LIGHT WILL APPEAR.
THEN SUDDENLY, ALL AROUND THE BAND...

COUNTLESS RAYS OF LIGHT DANCING AND WRIGGLING AROUND AND ROUND.
LIKE FISH SUDDENLY LEAPING UP,
ONES WHICH CATCH YOUR EYE.



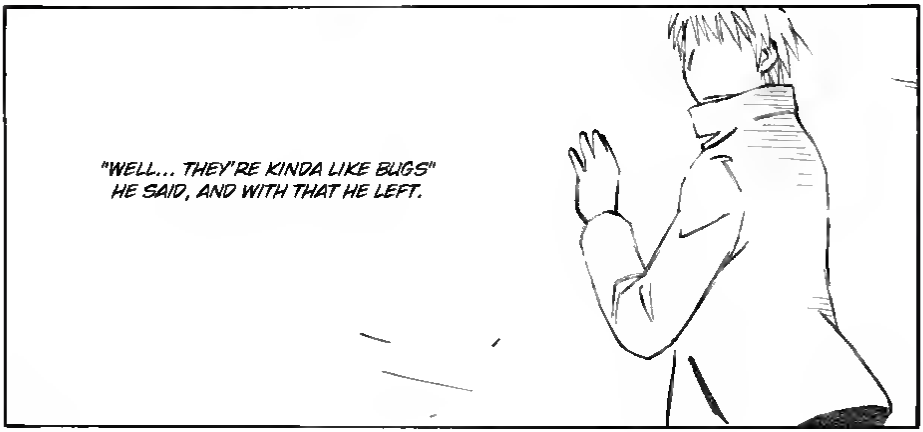
LONG AGO... AN ADULT STOOD BESIDE ME.

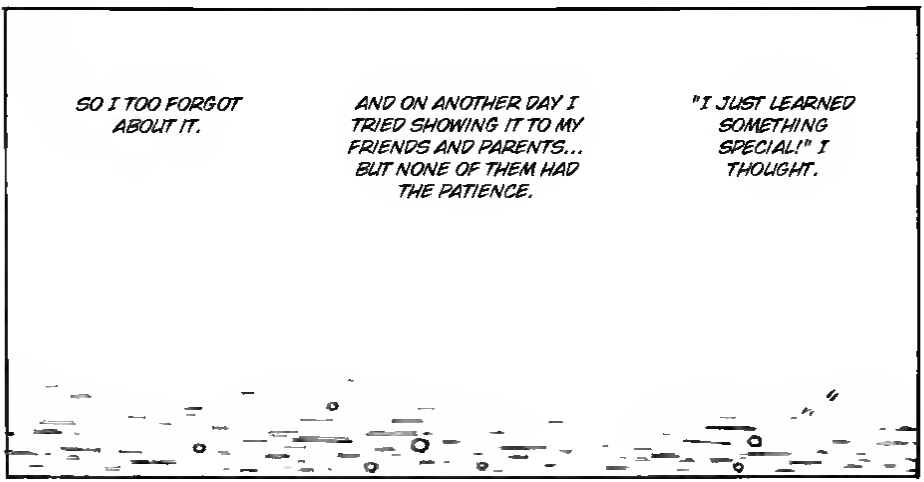
HE EXPLAINED TO ME WHY THIS HAPPENS.

"ON THEIR OWN THEY WON'T DO ANYTHING BAD, BUT YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITH THEM EITHER" HE TOLD ME.

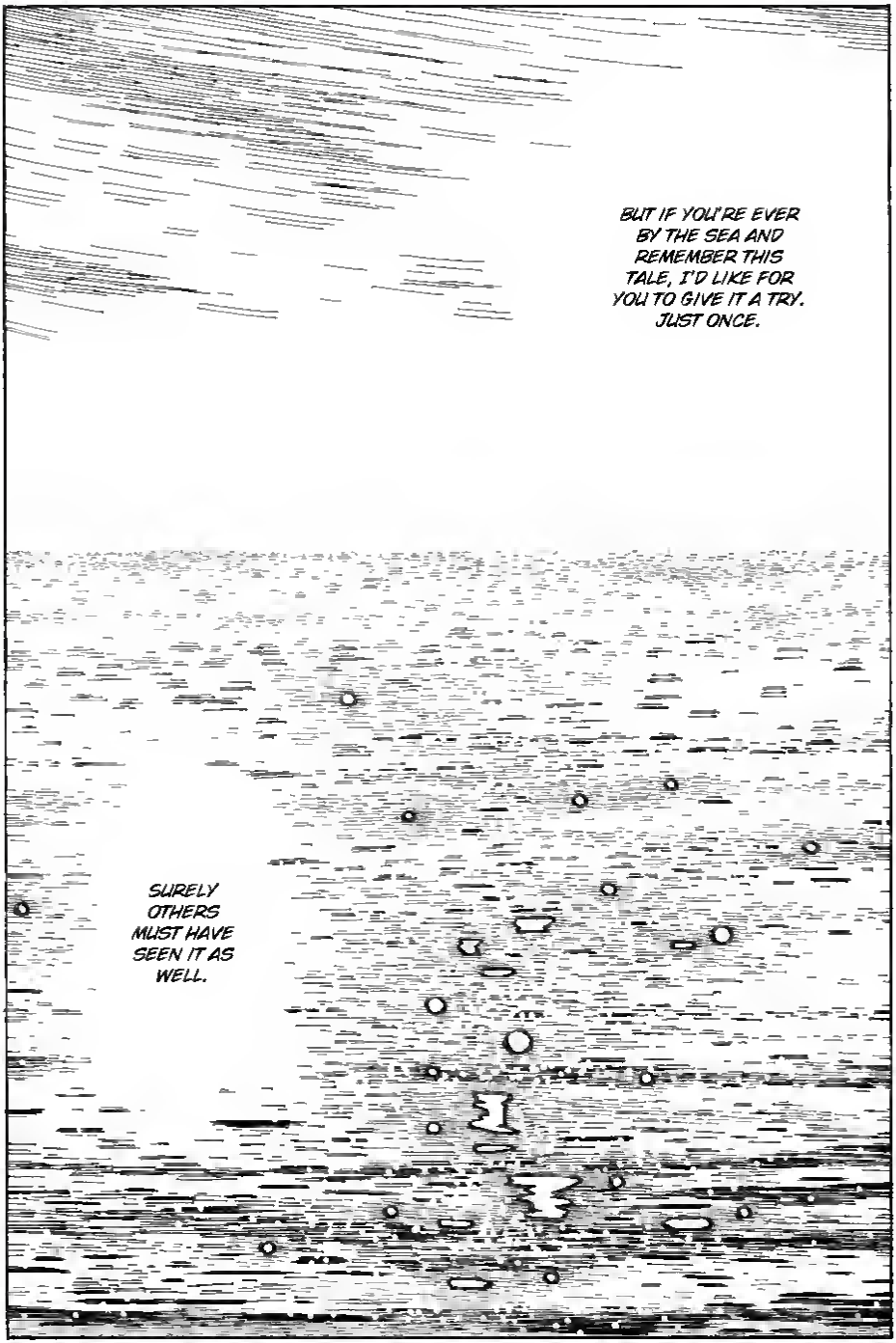
"THAT'S NOT YOUR EYES PLAYING TRICKS. THOSE ARE FRAGMENTS OF A KIND OF 'POWER'".

"WHAT MIGHT THEY BE?"
I ASKED HIM.


"WELL... THEY'RE KINDA LIKE BUGS"
HE SAID, AND WITH THAT HE LEFT.


SO I TOO FORGOT
ABOUT IT.
AND ON ANOTHER DAY I
TRIED SHOWING IT TO MY
FRIENDS AND PARENTS...
BUT NONE OF THEM HAD
THE PATIENCE.
"I JUST LEARNED
SOMETHING
SPECIAL!" I
THOUGHT.

I'VE RETURNED TO MY HOME TOWN AFTER A LONG TIME AWAY.
TODAY, THE SAME THING HAPPENS AS IT DID ON THAT DAY.
I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SEE ANYTHING NOW.
IF THAT MAN HADN'T COME HERE,


BUT IF YOU'RE EVER BY THE SEA AND REMEMBER THIS TALE, I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO GIVE IT A TRY. JUST ONCE.
SURELY OTHERS MUST HAVE SEEN IT AS WELL.

This world is teeming with unseen life.

[Mushishi] Side Story [Shimmering of the Sea] ~Fin~

Shimmering of the Sea

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